

ATTY DOCKET #: 2003_1354

Due Date:

Confirmation No. 4588

OUR REF: 2003_1354/WDH/012/3

Applicant: Osamu NABEYA et al.

Serial No.: 10/669,468

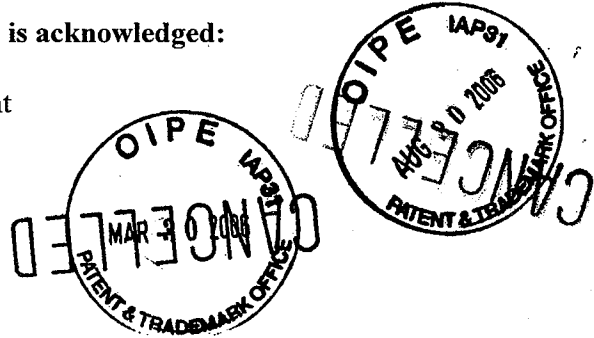
Filing Date: September 25, 2003

Title: ELECTROLYTIC PROCESSING APPARATUS AND ELECTROLYTIC
PROCESSING METHOD



Receipt of the following papers is acknowledged:

Information Disclosure Statement
Form 1449
European Search Report
References



Date: March 30, 2007

Attorney: WDH/akl

[Check No. _____]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 4588**
Osamu NABEYA et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2003_1354
Serial No. 10/669,468 : Group Art Unit 1753

Filed September 25, 2003

ELECTROLYTIC PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND ELECTROLYTIC
PROCESSING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/_____; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☒ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. ☒ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

WO 00/34995 and EP 1 139 400 correspond to USP 6,652,658;
DE 44 02 596 corresponds to USP 6,176,995;
EP 1 029 954 corresponds to USP 6,365,017;
EP 1 079 003 corresponds to USP 6,368,493; and
EP 1 179 617 corresponds to US 2002/0020627.

5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

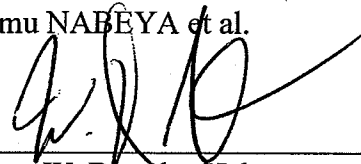
6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Osamu NABEYA et al.

By



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March 30, 2007

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
2003_1354SERIAL NO.
10/669,468LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT
Osamu NABEYA et al.

Date Submitted to PTO: March 30, 2007

FILING DATE
September 25, 2003GROUP
1753

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	3,883,383	05/1975	Leitz, Jr.			
	AB	6,868,493	04/2002	Mori et al.			
	AC	2002/0020627	02/2002	Kunisawa et al.			
	AD	6,176,995	01/2001	Schneider			
	AE	6,365,017	04/2002	Hongo et al.			
	AF	6,652,658	11/2003	Mori et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AG	00/34995	06/2000	WO			Abstract	
	AH	1 139 400	10/2001	EP				
	AI	2000-144467	05/2000	JP			Abstract	
	AJ	44 02 596	08/1995	DE				
	AK	1 029 954	08/2000	EP				
	AL	1 079 003	02/2001	EP				
	AM	1 170 083	01/2002	EP				
	AN	1 179 617	02/2002	EP				

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AO

AP

AQ

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.